Approved For Release 2003/08/18 : CIA-RDP72-00310R000100140002-0

SECREF

OGC 70-1883

5 November 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Alcoholic Beverages

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1. I talked with of NSA on Tuesday, 3 November, concerning the reported information that NSA is now serving beer at its dining facilities. indicated that this is indeed a hot item and he is receiving many inquiries.
2. Their basic problems, which are not yet settled, are ones of whether they must have a state license and whether they are to pay state taxes. Further, their facilities are at different installations, at least one of which is on land where the state has no criminal jurisdiction and at least one where the state does have criminal jurisdiction. He thinks that as to the former, NSA will be able to maintain their position and, in effect, ignore the state. He is not so certain as to the latter. Local merchants are actively attacking their action since, as they put it to the employees instead of going out are staying in. has indicated to the local authorities they will pay the normal taxes provided that Maryland would not regard this as a precedent binding upon NSA. The matter is not yet settled and hearings with local authorities on the matter of a license are to take place in the next few days.
mentioned there is a Maryland statute under which federal government instrumentalities are not required to pay taxes.
4. mentioned also that there is a statute authorizing the Secretary of Defense to authorize the sale of intoxicants at any base occupied by members of the Armed Forces and it is under this authority that NSA has acted.

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5. A GSA regulation permits the use of alcoholic beverages on federal properties on approval of the Administrator of General Services:

The use of alcoholic beverages on property is prohibited except on occasion and on property upon which the Administrator of General Services has for appropriate official uses granted an exemption permit in writing. (41 C.F.R., January 1, 1970, section 101-19.307)

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OGC:RHL:sin Distribution:

Original - Buildings, Ground & Property subj file

1 - RHL signer

1 - Chrono